programme in Jharkhand are administrative delays including late award of projects; inadequate technical and manpower and security related issues.

(e) The PMGSY envisages connecting all habitations with the population of 500 persons and above (250 persons and above in respect of hill States, the tribal areas and the desert areas). Rural roads is one of the components of Bharat Nirman. Bharat Nirman, which is a sub-set of PMGSY, the goal is to provide connectivity to all habitations with a population of 1000 persons and above (500 persons and above in respect of hill States, and the tribal areas) with an all-weather road by 2009.

Tribal villages under PMGSY in Jharkhand

1798. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are sanctioned and not yet constructed or being constructed in the State of Jharkhand for the year 2006-07;

(b) the names and details of these roads block-wise, size-wise and amount-wise;

(c) whether all the hamlets/villages having 250 tribals have been connected by road under PMGSY; and

(d) if not, the details of the villages district-wise and also the plan as to when these villages will have road connectivity?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is being implemented in the country from the year 2000-01. In Jharkhand, 629 road works with 3362.37 kms road length has been sanctioned out of which 496 road works with 2636 km. road length have been completed. However, during the year 2006-07, no fresh project proposal was submitted by the State Government of Jharkhand.

(b) to (d) Under PMGSY, unit of implementation is habitation with specified population and not hamlets/villages. In Jharkhand, all the hamlets/villages having population of 250 or more have not yet been connected by road. The programme is being implemented in accordance with the programme guidelines and the relevant instructions issued from time to time. Execution of the PMGSY Scheme is the responsibility of the State Government. The State is required to furnish 'On-line' all the data information in the relevant module of the On-line Management and Monitoring System(OMMS). The details of the progress of the PMGSY is available in the website *www.pmgsy.nic.in* and *www.omms.nic.in*.

Extension of NREGA

1799. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to extend the coverage of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to another 200 districts in the country to achieve inclusive growth; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; *inter alia* indicating those that would be covered in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) In accordance with section 1(3) of the NatIonal Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA),2005, the Act shall be applicable to the whole of the territory, to which it extends, within a reriod of five years from the date of its enactment. NREGA was enacted on 7th September, 2005. All districts are to be covered under the Act by 7th September, 2010. The act has already been extended to 330 districts in two phases. At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to extend it to 200 more districts.

Committee for amending Land Acquisition Act, 1894

1800. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formed a Committee to study changes in the 1894 Land Acquisition Act;

(b) the name and members of this Committee;

(c) whether any non-officials have been included in the said Committee;

(d) the steps proposed to protect land-owners from being victims of arbitrary acquisitions by diverse State Governments; and

(e) the date by when all changes proposed in the Land Acquisition Act will be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (e) No Committee have been framed by the Government of India to study changes in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. However, suitable amendments to the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and revision of the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Families, 2003 is under active consideration of the Government. Currently, the matter is being examined by a Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted by the Cabinet Secretariat to finalize the drafts of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy and associated legislative measures in cases relating to land acquisition, for consideration of the Cabinet. After the drafts are finalized by the GoM, the same may be taken to the Cabinet for consideration.

Utilisation of NREG funds for energy crops

1801. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether Government permits or has a mechanism for utilisation of NREG funds for development of energy crops like Jatropha by private sector enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): Tree Plantation is a permissible activity under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. Plantation of energy crops like Jatropha